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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0935
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TAGS: OPRC, CH, KMDR
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - BEIJING: DPRK, WAR ON TERROR,
AMERICA AND THE UN, DUMPING FURNITURE

1. DPRK

a. "World Attention on Six-Way Talks: Five Hundred
Journalists Assemble in Beijing, Delegations Busy in
Negotiation"

Song Nianshen and Sun Yuaner commented in the official
Communist Party international news publication Global Times
(Huanqiu Shibao) (8/27):

"The U.S. maintains a conservative attitude toward the
talks. ...Recently the U.S. staged a series of military
exercises aimed at the DPRK, ...which were all taken as
actions to exert pressure before the talks."

b. "Economic Interests Important Factor to Improve U.S.-DPRK
Relations"

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The official Xinhua Daily Telegraph (Xinhua Meiri Dianxun) reported (8/27):

"South Korea, Japan, the U.S., ASEAN and China form a complex network of international specialization within which the members are mutually-dependent. A confrontation between the U.S. and the DPRK would paralyze the system."

"A DPRK-U.S. confrontation would also harm the U.S.' interests in East Asia. ...Therefore the U.S. government hopes that the nuclear issue can be settled through negotiation, at least before the U.S. election."

2. WAR ON TERROR

"The War on Terror Needs no 'Manipulator'"

Li Zhiqiang commented in the official intellectual publication Guangming Daily (Guangming Ribao) (8/27):

"Two weeks ago, Hambali, the leader of the Southeast Asian terror organization 'Jemaah Islamiya,' was arrested in Thailand. ...However, many Southeast Asian nations like Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Singapore won't gain anything from this success."

...

"Considering what is happening in other parts of the world, the Hambali affair at the very least proves two points: first, the U.S. is manipulating the overall global anti-terror drive. U.S. interests must be taken as the priority, and even the rules and regulations of the anti-terror fight must bend to the U.S.' will; second ...the U.S. never shares its 'privilege of controlling' any 'sensitive or specific intelligence' with others. Actions like this violate not only international norms but also international morals."

3. AMERICA AND THE UN

"Is American 'Dollars and Sense' More Important than Security of UN Personnel? Vetoing the International Criminal Court Because It's Detrimental to 'Doctrine of Pre-emption'"

Qi Zijian commented in the official Xinhua Daily Telegraph (Xinhua Meiri Dianxun) (8/27):

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"That the UN office in Iraq suffered such a terrorist attack shocks the world, and it is the world's responsibility to decide how to protect UN personnel around the world and how to bring criminals to justice so that the UN can continue its dual-role of maintaining peace and promoting development. However ...the U.S. has its own calculus, insisting on opposing the International Criminal Court and bargaining on the recent proposal [by Mexico, regarding improving the security of UN personnel stationed in conflict-zones]"

...

"Supporting Mexico's proposal would mean recognizing to a certain extent the ICC, which is unacceptable in the U.S.' eyes."

...

"The U.S. has forged a compromise with other Security Council members that the words 'International Criminal Court' should be deleted but that 'war crimes' could be kept. However, without the international law upon which a 'criminal's' punishment could be based, and without specific judicial measures, there will certainly be difficulties in providing effective protection to UN personnel."

----- 4. DUMPING FURNITURE -----

"Chinese Furniture Faces U.S. Anti-Dumping Accusations: 28 American Companies Seek Industry Protection, Chinese and Hong Kong Companies Join to Fight Back"

Chen Ji commented in the official popular newspaper Beijing Youth Daily (Beijing Qingnianbao) (8/26):

"A deeper reason beyond the anti-dumping crisis facing Chinese furniture is that quite a lot of American furniture dealers benefit from the great quantity of furniture exports from China. ...The anti-dumping fight initiated by American furniture manufacturers may harm the interests of American dealers, or even lead to a new round of layoffs and bankruptcies..."

"Experts believe that the crucial reason for this trade dispute that may break out between the U.S. and China is the contradiction between production and sales within the American domestic furniture trade."

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